Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

homemakers' chat
FOR USE IN NON-COMMERCIAL BROADCASTS ONLY
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

June 6, 1944

Subject: STILL TIME TO START VICTORY GARDENING. Information from gardening specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

LIBRARY
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
JUN 14 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

3 Ah
cop. 2

Is there still time to start Victory Gardening?

Indeed there is. Early June is a very good time to plant snap beans, tomatoes, lima beans, peppers, cucumbers, pole beans, summer greens, salad crops, and sweet corn, if the first frosts locally do not come too early in the fall.

So, welcome to the ranks of Victory Gardeners, those of you who are debating as to whether to start. Don't miss the joy, healthful food and saving in money that a good garden brings. The food you produce helps meet our National needs, too, you know.

Even though rationing was relaxed on certain canned vegetables and frozen fruits and vegetables are point free, this is regarded as temporary. Price Administrator Chester Bowles said recently:

"Although point values for vegetables were reduced .... to move current stocks, higher point values later appear likely for processed foods in general because of increased Government requirements."

President Roosevelt in his recent call for more Victory Gardens said: "I hope every American who possibly can will grow a Victory Garden this year. We found out last year that even the small gardens helped. The total harvest from Victory Gardens was tremendous. It made the difference between scarcity and abundance...."

That still holds true as food is still one of the most essential weapons of war.

H. W. Hochbaum, Chairman, U. S. Government Garden Committee, has stated: "Leaders in Victory Garden work hope that several million more persons will heed

the call and plant a garden this year. Thereby a great service will be rendered the Nation. THERE IS STILL TIME TO GROW A FINE GARDEN. Moreover, all the millions of gardeners could do much more for themselves and for our food supply, if they could keep their garden growing, producing to the fullest in summer and late fall. We simply cannot take a chance with war and weather."

Today there are more men in the armed services and more overseas, and this means more canned fruits and vegetables will be needed this year than last. In a joint statement from the War Food Administration and the Office of War Information we learn that "to meet this increased demand canners are to set aside from their 1944 pack 56 percent of the lima beans, 31 percent of the corn, 41 percent of the peas, 56 percent of the tomatoes, and 64 percent of the tomato juice."

You can readily see that those of us here at home will not be able to have as many of these things, unless, of course, we decide to raise them ourselves.

Good gardens mean more than just good soil preparation and care. Last year many Victory gardeners - and there were about 20,000,000 of them - gained much valuable experience and are doing a better job than ever. It might be suggested that the many hints in garden booklets issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, State Extension Services and other sources will be of great value to you, if this is your first attempt at gardening.

There is also someone in your neighborhood whose experience you might want to seek. These things will help you to "get going."

The thrill of raising your own food is something worth striving for.

Why put it off any longer?

Oh, yes... here's a suggestion for you thrifty gardeners. Whether you have planted 'em or not, why not set out plenty of tomato plants this year? There's still time to do it and this fall they'll come in mighty handy for canning purposes. Tomatoes, you know are easy to can and they taste good when preserved as juice, too.

#